

## CLAIMS:

1. A method for screening pigs to determine those more likely to produce larger litters, and/or those less likely to produce larger litters, which method comprises  
5 determining which FSH  $\beta$ -subunit allele(s) is/are present in the genome of individual pigs.
2. A method for screening pigs to determine those more likely to produce larger litters, and/or those less likely to produce larger litters, which method comprises the steps:
  - (i) obtaining a sample of pig nucleic acid; and
  - 10 (ii) analysing the nucleic acid obtained in (i) to determine which FSH  $\beta$ -subunit allele(s) is/are present.